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whether of tariff or finance, of weights or measures, despite the existence of an international bureau, would not bring about the union, the sole object of which is to make "right" prevail over "might," and it alone is salvation. At the Central American Conference which was held in Washington in 1907, and which led to the expectation that the treaties would result in a federal union, more than one delegation stated that it was not the peoples which opposed the re-establishment of the disunited republic, but the governments. And this could not be controverted. The truth of the matter is that only in union, and despite the created interests (not always legitimate ones), do the people see any possibility of an honorable administration and adequate form of government, free suffrage and rotation of power, the security of person and property, and the only means for assuring a stable place abroad and an acceptable régime at home; in other words, they realize that the only means under the existing conditions of civilization of putting an end to perpetual revolution is through federation.

The delegates of Honduras would be exceedingly gratified if their colleagues at this Central American Conference were to share their views. At all events, they, the delegates of Honduras, voice the desires of their government and share the sentiments of their fellow-countrymen. They believe this to be a unique, propitious, and final opportunity to work for the union of Central America, and feel that all must do their utmost to bring about the desired end. At this important conference it behooves us all to collaborate with patriotic zeal and hope for the cause of the great nation.

I have spoken.

NICARAGUA

Remarks of Senor Don Emiliano Chamorro, Minister of Nicaragua, Chief of the Nicaraguan Delegation

The willingness wherewith our five Central American republics have hastened to attend this conference is an additional testimony of the reality of our aspiration for unity, which desire, if fostered with intelligence and patriotism, will tend to overthrow all obstacles and some day, in the interest of all concerned, will hoist upon our mountains and wave over our lakes the sacred banner of one undivided nation.

The United States of America, by inviting us to hold this conference on its own soil, by sharing our labors and, becoming one of us, will demolish every argument that might exist on the part of those who, closing their eyes to the moral greatness of this nation, as demonstrated in history, would still disavow the noble interest which animates it to promote the well-being of the other nations of this hemisphere. We for our part feel that the friendship of this great republic is the best safeguard of our sovereignty.

These motives in themselves would suffice today to fill my country and its representatives with the profoundest satisfaction and to transform this satisfaction

into immense rejoicing; for, cognizant of the illustriousness, the patriotism, and the exalted aims of the delegates present, we feel assured that, animated as we all are by a sincere spirit of fraternity and justice, and convinced that the sacrifice which is being made to the common interest is a substantial guarantee of the interests of all concerned, in this conference we are establishing the foundations for an era of better understanding and increased co-operation between our several nations and, in consequence, for the more complete development and usefulness of the great and brilliant gifts which Providence has bestowed upon us.

I am convinced that all who are assembled here are animated by an ardent desire to eliminate any obstacles that might stand in the way of assuring the peace as well as the prosperity and rapid development of Central America. The circumstances under which we are placed are highly propitious for the realization of this work, and we possess the great advantage of being able to count in this our constructive work upon the co-operation of the two distinguished representatives of the United States Government. The problems that are to be discussed—regulations tending to establish more intimate and cordial relations between the individual nations; the form to be adopted in order to furnish an amicable solution of the international controversies; the limitation of war expenditure—all these are subjects of interest, not only to the countries of Central America, but to the entire continent. And we may consider ourselves happy if we are able to contribute to the extent of our power to promoting this broad spirit of Pan-American solidarity, which in its last analysis is the basis upon which depends the peace and happiness of all America, which we love, not alone because it is our continent, but rather because God has bestowed upon it the mission of being the standard-bearer of democracy and liberty. In my person the delegation of Nicaragua offers you everything in its power that may contribute toward the fulfillment of this noble mission.

Mr. Secretary, it is no mere coincidence that within the brief period of one year three international conferences of great significance have assembled in Washington; neither is it necessary to consider the importance of the matters discussed in the two preceding conferences and to be discussed in the present one. The mere fact that these conferences have assembled in Washington, under maximum conditions of place and circumstances, testifies to the confidence which the entire world feels in the impartiality, the concept of justice, and the rectitude of the actions of the United States Government, as well as of the people of this great country. We take pleasure in rendering them this homage.

The numerous attentions which the delegates have already received indicate in advance how great will be our debt of gratitude to your government, once this conference shall have terminated; but it will never exceed the gratitude which we owe you for having invited us to be the initiators of a new world-wide movement aiming at the solution of international controversies by means of conferences, equitable adjustments, and reciprocal concessions.

We tender you our most profound thanks.